

[25 August, 2000]

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scheme of their own to provide employment to job-seekers. However, the primary objective of the Ninth Plan is to generate greater productive employment in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are more labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rate of unemployment and under employment.

A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Ahluwalia, Member, Planning Commission has also been set up to look into the employment generation taking place and suggest measures to generate at least one hundred million jobs in a period of 10 years (Ten million jobs in each year).

Employment of Personnel in Private Sector

3351. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exists a mechanism to ascertain employment of personnel in private sector;

(b) if so, how many cases of violation of minimum wages have to come to light; and

(c) the action taken against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) collects data on employment through comprehensive surveys on quinquennial basis. In addition to the quinquennial surveys, NSSO also conducts annual surveys with a smaller sample size. Besides, the Directorate General of Employment and Training also collects data on employment in the organised sector under its Employment Market Information (EMI) Programme.

(b) and (c) As regards violation of minimum wages, the enforcement of the provisions of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is secured through the officers of Central Industrial Relations machinery in the Central sphere. In the State sphere, the enforcement is secured through the State Enforcement Machinery. Ii, officers who conduct regular inspections, take appropriate action whenever any case of non-payment or less payment of minimum wages is detected.

In the Central sphere, most of the mines covered as scheduled employment under the Minimum Wages Act are in private sector. As per the latest available information pertaining to violations of the provisions of the

Minimum Wages Act in mines in Central sphere during 1998-99 as many as 3671 inspections were carried out in which 44806 irregularities were detected, 1547 employers convicted, 394 claim cases disposed of and an amount of Rs. 38.45 lakhs awarded.

Irregularities in PF Accounts

† 3352. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that irregularities are being committed in the accounts of provident fund of the employee by some higher officers in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the action being taken against such guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) It is reported that there were fraudulent withdrawals from PF account of the subscriber by impersonation in the Regional EPF Office Bhubaneswar and Sub-Regional Office Berhampur.

(b) Preliminary investigation in the matter has been carried out and consequently one UDC and one Section Supervisor have been placed under suspension on account of their suspected connivance with outsiders in the case.

Losses due to Labour Unrest

3353. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Labour unrest causes Rs. 923 crore loss" as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated 9th June, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the country is suffering losses worth crores of rupees every year due to labour unrest;

(c) if so, the details of States which are more prone to labour unrest and whether Government have drawn any plans to check such labour unrest; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.